

The SWORD of the LORD

Edited by JOHN R. RICE.

"And they cried, The Sword of the Lord, and of Gideon." Judges 7:20

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PREPARE TO MEET THY GOD

By Rev. Fred H. Wight
2037 Marengo Avenue, South Pasadena, California

Amos, the great home-missionary prophet to Israel, never uttered words that have brought more conviction to sinners than when he said, "Prepare to meet thy God" (Amos 4:12). But these striking words of the prophet will take on new meaning and power when understood in the light of the context, especially the verses in our Bible that immediately precede this text. We will read selected portions of verses 6 to 12 of the fourth chapter of Amos. The words of the Lord are being spoken by the prophet.

"And I also have given you cleanness of teeth in all your cities, and want of bread in all your places: yet have ye not returned unto me, saith the Lord. And also I have withholden the rain from you, when there were yet three months to the harvest . . . yet have ye not returned unto me, saith the Lord. I have smitten you with blasting and mildew: when your gardens and your vineyards and your fig trees and your olive trees increased, the palmerworm devoured them: yet have ye not returned unto me, saith the Lord. . . . I have sent among you the pestilence after the manner of Egypt: your young men have I slain with the sword, and have taken away your horses . . . yet have ye not returned unto me, saith the Lord. I have overthrown some of you as God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah, and ye were as a firebrand plucked out of the burning: yet have ye not returned unto me, saith the Lord. Therefore thus will I do unto thee, O Israel, and because I will do this unto thee, prepare to meet thy God, O Israel."

In hearing this Scripture read, you have no doubt noticed the repetition of the words, ". . . yet have ye not returned unto me, saith the Lord." Five times over are these words repeated. They are used to describe unrepentant sinners. And according to the teaching of this sermon of Amos, unrepentant sinners must meet a holy God in judgment. There is no escape for them, as long as they

(Continued on page 6)



Rev. Fred H. Wight

Talking With God

By the late Dr. Charles Blanchard,
Second President of Wheaton College

I suppose every thoughtful person from time to time takes up with himself the question of prayer. It was not a good man who said: "What profit should we have, if we pray unto him?" (Job 21:15). But it was a very natural question and a thousand others than he have framed it, sometimes in thought, and at other times in words. How can God answer prayer if He be all-knowing and all-powerful? Why should a Being who could create a universe like this care to listen to beings like us, so ignorant, so short-lived, so sinful, so helpless?

Nevertheless, the impulse to prayer is irresistible. Some one has said, "Man is incurably religious; man is incurably prayerful."

I was talking with a lad not long since, and asked him if he prayed. He replied, "Yes, sometimes."

I said: "When do you pray?" He said: "When I get scared." He was not peculiar in this respect; in a cyclone or a storm at sea, in a time of deathly illness or of financial disaster, men pray, —naturally they do this. They do not have to be taught, they simply pray. Infidels, even those who call themselves atheists, when these times of stress and storm come upon them, reach out into the dark for God.

Does It Really Do Any Good?

Men pray without regard to this question, but after the storm and stress have passed, the question recurs. It comes to all men. Christians who pray habitually and constantly from time to time have this question suggested to them, "Does it really do any good for me to pray?" All sorts of objections and difficulties are suggested to the mind.

My little boy, eleven years of age, says to his mother that it does no good to pray. He says, "I ask God to make me a good boy and He does not do it." He has already the prayer problem in its essence fully developed in his own mind. He prays, and it does not

(Preached over the Coast to Coast Networks of Mutual Broadcasting System and The American Broadcasting Radio Network, and by Short Wave in Foreign Lands).

"When they therefore were come together, they asked of him saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel?"—Acts 1:6.

This was the last question which the disciples of our Lord were privileged to ask our Saviour while He was here on the earth. It was a question born of eager expectation and shattered hopes. "Wilt thou at THIS TIME restore the kingdom again to Israel?" This was the most important question, uppermost in the minds of the disciples at this particular moment. They had expected, as all the devout Jews of that day had, that when the Messiah would come, He would set up the long-awaited Messianic, but surely promised kingdom upon this earth. All the prophecies had foretold,

that when the Messiah came, Israel would be delivered from the Roman yoke, the kingdom would be established, and earth's millennial peace would be ushered in.

They as yet, of course, knew nothing about the intervening church age between the First and Second Comings of this Messiah. They did not look for a rejected, crucified Saviour, but a victorious, conquering One who would deliver Israel from the cruel yoke of bondage and oppression, and restore the glory of the kingdom of Israel, foreshadowed in the reigns of David and of King Solomon.

It was this faith that Jesus was the Messiah which had prompted them to leave all, and to follow Him. Even John the Baptist believed this, and when he was cast into prison, and Jesus did not set up the kingdom as he expected, he began to doubt, and sent his disciples with the question, "Art thou he [the Messiah] that should come, or look we for another?" But the disciples were in for a very severe shock, for instead of delivering Israel from bondage, instead of sitting upon the Throne of David, as all the prophets had foretold, He goes instead to the cross of Calvary, and dies as a

criminal upon the cruel tree. All their hopes of the kingdom were shattered and dashed into pieces in a moment. But we can hardly blame the disciples for leaving Him and fleeing in terror at that critical moment, for they as yet knew not the meaning of Calvary. And then their hopes were revived when He arose. For a little while they again took courage. Surely now He would set up the kingdom, after His resurrection, but no—again they must be disappointed, and forty days Jesus spent with

(Continued on page 9)



Dr. M. R. DeHaan

Provoking Letters!

"And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works."—Heb. 10:24.

"And your zeal hath provoked very many."—II Cor. 9:2.

By the Editor

The two Scriptures above show that Christians ought to take pains to provoke one another! But we should provoke people to do good, and not provoke them to do evil. In Hebrews 10:24 we are told that we Christians should "consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works." And in II Corinthians 9:2, we are told that the earnest zeal of the Christians in Corinth in giving to the poor saints in Jerusalem had been an example provoking other Christians to give likewise.

And the Apostle Paul tells us in Romans 11:14 that he earnestly desired to "provoke to emulation" his Jewish people, that they might follow his example, turn to Christ and be saved.

Thus we see that Christians ought to set out deliberately to provoke other people to do right, provoke them to good works by our example.

I have some very provoking letters before me.

Mother and Daughter Saved; Mother Now With the Lord

We have so many wonderful letters; and here I find one that we have had for a year, but never published. Will you read the letter and then see if you are not provoked to help us get the Gospel to others like these?

The letter was written October 24, 1952, from Minneapolis, Minnesota.

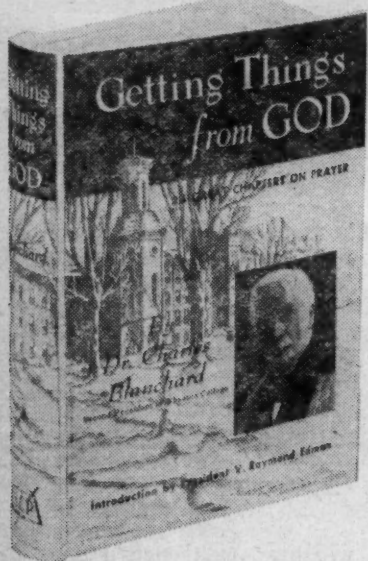
"Dear Brother Rice, "Your booklet and THE SWORD OF THE LORD helped to save my mother, Mrs. Hattie Peterson, who died of cancer 8 years ago."

"We attended several of your meetings held at Barron, Wisconsin. I was about 11 years old at that time. My father, Mr. Fred Peterson, sent me your booklet. He is a Christian and prayed to God that I too would be saved. Through your booklet and the Bible, God has spoken to me. I am 20 years old, but in Jesus I'm just a baby. Please pray for me, Brother Rice, that I may not be like the seed that falls in the thorns, takes root, grows for awhile, then gets choked with the cares and pleasures of life."

(Signed) "Darlene I. Peterson"

How would you like to have been the Christian to send THE SWORD OF THE LORD to Mrs. Peterson more than 9 years ago? How would you like to have been the one to get her concerned about her soul, writing for the booklet, "What Must I Do to Be Saved?" and then turning to Christ? She died of cancer 8 years before this

(Continued on page 4)



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Dr. Charles Blanchard

God's People And The Sword Of The Lord Building

By Rev. W. E. Handford, General Manager,
The Sword of the Lord Foundation

This morning I've been having a strange praise service in my heart. Today I'm praising the Lord for the serious problem we are facing in paying for the fine new property the Lord has led us to buy for the rapidly expanding ministry of the Sword of the Lord Foundation. I have sometimes wondered why God didn't raise up some wealthy friend for us who would be able to finance all of the many projects for which we are responsible. I have thought it would be so nice not to have to keep going to our friends with the need for money for the world-wide Free Literature program, the Ministers and Missionaries gift-subscription fund, and our needs for a new building. But this morning I'm thanking the Lord that we do have these special needs constantly pressing us.

First, I'm thankful for problems because they remind us that this work must have the daily blessing of God in order to be effective. If we should cease having to depend on the Lord, how sad would be our plight. No, I am glad that we have a \$17,000 payment to make on our new property January 1, 1954, because it will draw us all closer to the Lord as we depend on Him to provide for this need.

Second, I'm glad for this urgent need in the Building Fund because it provides another opportunity for thousands of friends all over the world to step in and help us raise this needed money. Abraham Lincoln said, "God must have loved the plain people: He made so many of them." Somehow the Lord has made the ministry of Dr. Rice through THE SWORD OF THE LORD and his books to appeal especially to common folks like you and me. If this ministry appealed only to people with money and lots of education, you and I would miss out on the blessings. But, praise God, through the years it has been the sacrificial giving of thousands of ordinary people that has kept this ministry going.

Sometimes we plain folks wonder how we can really do something for the Lord. We don't have much money, and somehow our talents seem too limited. But the Lord said, "Despite not the day of small things." Jesus was much more pleased with a widow who gave her mite to God than He was with the rich man who gave a great deal more. She had given all she had.

Jesus one day took a boy's lunch and fed a multitude of more than 5,000. The boy gave Jesus all he had.

Elisha was met one day by a widow whose boys were to be sold as servants. All she had in the house was a pot of oil but, given to the Lord, it multiplied to meet her need.

Possibly you have been feeling that the little amount you could give toward our new property and building would be too small to be of value. But if you will help with



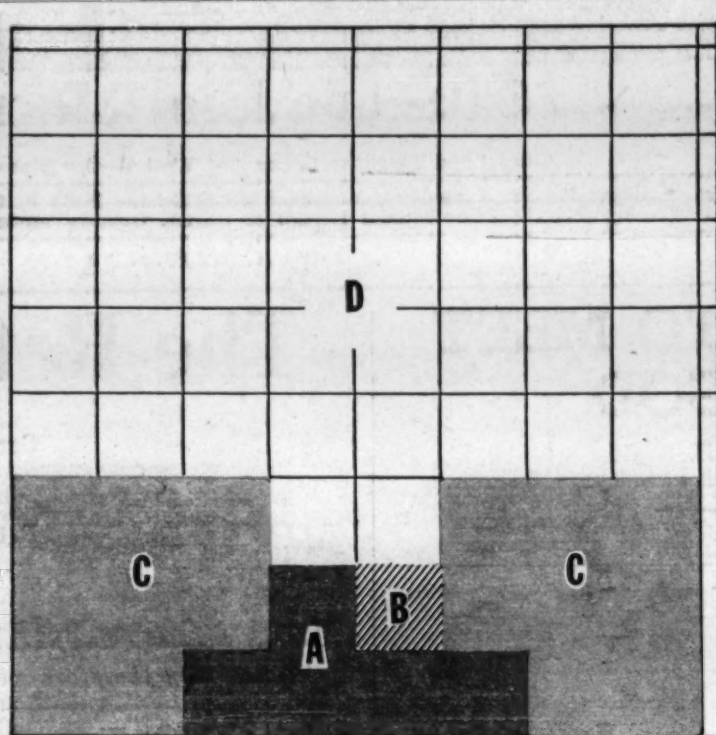
Walter E. Handford

what you can and thousands of others like you help, then there will be enough.

You will probably remember the thrilling announcement made last week about the large piece of property which we have contracted to buy for the Sword of the Lord Foundation's new office building. Five thousand dollars earnest money has already been paid. Another \$17,000 must be paid by January 1, 1954. A final payment of \$44,000 will be due on August 1, 1954. The chart accompanying this article will help you to picture the problem.

Yesterday, November 13, there was \$1,029.45 in the Building Fund. That means we have about \$16,000 more to raise nearly immediately. The property is costing approximately \$2.50 per square foot. In order for you to have a permanent record of your part in buying this property we have prepared a lovely certificate card which will have on it your name and a number of square feet you paid for. This attractive certificate will be suitable for placing on your wall as a reminder of your gift.

Will you set out to pray and



Payment Chart on New Sword Property

To make it easy to picture we have divided a piece of ground into squares. Each square above represents 400 square feet of new Sword property, Hale and Seminary Streets, Wheaton. Each 400 square feet costs us \$1,000.

Section marked "A" represents \$5,000 already paid.

Section marked "B" is 400 square feet for which we already have money in hand.

The two sections marked "C" represent sixteen additional \$1,000 units which must be paid for January 1. (That January 1st payment is \$17,000.)

Section "D" represents balance of property, 44 units, for which we are to pay \$44,000 on August 1, 1954, when we take possession.

see how many square feet of this land God wants you to provide for? If you will follow the Lord's leading, He will be satisfied and the need will be met for the property. When you send your gift, please use the coupon below so that you will be sure to receive the attractive certificate.

Building Fund
Christmas Gift Coupon
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Dear Dr. Rice:

I want to help buy the new property for the Sword of the Lord Foundation.

Enclosed is \$_____ to buy _____ square feet at \$2.50 per square foot. Please send the attractive wall certificate.

In Jesus' name,

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____



REPORTS FROM AMERICA'S OUTSTANDING SOUL WINNERS

By the Editor

EVANGELIST BOB MANDERSON of Bethany Acres, Fallston, Maryland, was the speaker for the campaign just closed at Bethany Evangelical United Brethren Church, Pen Argyl, Pennsylvania. Pastor E. L. Heiser writes that the Spirit of God manifested His power with the conversion of fifty-eight people. Evangelist Mander-son, who is a former New York night club entertainer and a former alcoholic, is heartily recommended for his spirit, doctrine, and methods by Pastor Heiser.

EVANGELIST BILL PIPER, 122 Bradley Boulevard, Greenville, South Carolina, led in a meeting in the First Baptist Church of Cheyenne, Wyoming, October 11 through 25. The meeting was wonderfully blessed of God. During the two weeks, 123 professed faith in Christ and 217 rededicated their lives. In addition, 30 family altars were begun, 25 young people surrendered for full-time service, and 45 were added to the church.

Dr. George White, pastor of the church, in a letter of commendation, has written, "We are rejoicing in the many decisions made for Christ. . . We in Cheyenne highly recommend him as an evangelist whom the Lord is blessing in an unique way." The singer for the meetings was Rev. Ralph McGilvra.

SWORD OF THE LORD EVANGELIST EDDIE WAGNER has just conducted a fine revival campaign with the Valley Baptist Church of Burbank, California. Rev. John DeSaegher is the pastor. The entire church and Sunday School experienced a wonderful time of reviving and harvesting during the Wagner meeting. There were 75 conversions during the campaign, 40 rededications, and exactly 100 families pledged themselves to a time of daily devotion and prayer. There were also some 350 who pledged to tithe, 58 young people who dedicated their lives full-time to Christ's service, and a number of other decisions.

EVANGELIST DAN VESTAL, Seminary Hill, Box 6214, Fort Worth, Texas, writes the editor: "The Lord continues to bless our ministry. Just conducted a revival meeting with the North Lewis Avenue Baptist Church of Tulsa, Oklahoma, with 35 additions to the church, 23 conversions, 11 true rededications, and one young man surrendering to preach. Dr. Elmer Page is the noble pastor. . . . Am now with the First Baptist Church, Velasco, Texas, Rev. Gordon Johnson, pastor. Brother Bob Brown from Denver, Colorado, is leading the singing. Pray with us for a great revival. . . ."

EVANGELIST O. W. STUCKY,

17345 Northrop Avenue, Detroit 19, Michigan, writes to report on three fall campaigns. He and Mrs. Stucky began the fall work with revival meetings in Havana, Illinois, and Mount Sterling, Illinois. He wrote from meetings in Alpena, Michigan. To quote from Evangelist Stucky's letter, "In these services we have had the joy of seeing 73 first-time conversions, in addition to many who came for consecration, church membership, etc. Some really outstanding conversions: In Mount Sterling, Illinois, a sixteen year old boy came to the Lord the first Sunday morning and during the week his father and two sisters came, a few nights later the grandparents came, and the pastor writes that since the meeting he has baptized nine in that one family alone. Attendances were record for the church, the building was packed to its capacity night after night, and chairs were carried in to seat the people."

EVANGELIST HOMER BRITTON of Chattanooga, Tennessee, held a successful evangelistic meeting in the Glen Park Baptist Church, Gary, Indiana. Rev. James L. Surley, pastor of that good church, reports that there were some 40 confessions of faith; some 20 united with the church; and several who came for rededication of life. "Evangelist Britton preached forcibly against sin and worldliness, exalted Christ, and sought to build up the local church. We are thankful for the blessings which came to our church through his ministry," writes the pastor.

EVANGELIST TOM C. FAIR, 2726 S. E. 118th Avenue, Portland 66, Oregon, writes: "The Lord continues to bless my ministry here on the West Coast. I have just finished eight weeks of meetings in 4 different churches here in Oregon, Washington, and Idaho. In the 4 meetings God gave us 143 first-time decisions for Christ. How we praise Him for His faithfulness as we preach the Word."

SWORD OF THE LORD EVANGELIST JOE B. RICE, 206 N. Roberts Street, Edmond, Oklahoma, has conducted a fine revival campaign with Rev. Francis M. Chilton in the Boulevard Heights Baptist Church of Washington, D. C. The revival meetings were well attended, and there were fifteen straight-out conversions and a number of other decisions. Joe was on a number of radio broadcasts with Rev. Dale Crowley who is a well-known gospel broadcaster of this strategic district.

DR. TORREY JOHNSON led in the Walla Walla Crusade for Christ which closed Sunday, October 18. This meeting was held in a mammoth tent located at the Southwestern Washington Fair Grounds, Walla Walla, Washington, and was sponsored by the Evangelical Ministerial Union together with the Christian Business Men's Committee, The Gideons, and Youth for Christ. Many confessed Christ, Christians were revived, and a tremendous spiritual impact was made on that area.

SHALL I PRAY ON?

For years I've prayed, and yet I see no change.

The mountain stands exactly where it stood;

The shadows that it casts are just as deep;

The pathway to its summit e'en more steep.

Shall I Pray On?

Shall I pray on with ne'er a hopeful sign?

Not only does the mountain still remain,

But, while I watch to see it disappear,

Becomes the more appalling year by year.

Shall I Pray On?

I will pray on, though distant it may seem,

The answer may be almost at my door,

Or just around the corner on its way.

—Selected



AMERICA'S OUTSTANDING REVIVAL WEEKLY

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CHAPTER V

The Bees Build A Mausoleum

Bees have a unique insect furnace which they use to keep the temperature of the hive comfortable even in the depth of winter when the thermometer registers 10 degrees below zero outside. The bees remain inside and are able to maintain their living quarters at 65 degrees F. If the air becomes heavy and there is need of ventilation, they know how to arrange themselves in proper formation and by vigorous action of their wings, one brigade on the inside and another on the outside pull out the vitiated air and draw in clean, fresh supplies.

The way they dispose of the dead body of a mouse is interesting. This dead body will surely foul the entire hive, necessitating an abandonment of their home. How then can they get rid of the odor? They varnish the dead mouse from head to tail with propolis or bee-glue, which forms an airtight mausoleum for the decomposing animal. Thus there is not the slightest contamination of their living abode.

These and many other wonders must well occupy our attention, but let us, as we take leave of the bee, make an early morning visit to a hive. The soft light of a new day is sweeping across the fields, and a stimulating breeze is moving among flowers, leaves, and shrubs. Throughout the hive is the thrill of buoyant life. Thousands of workers buzzing about cause the beehouse to quiver with activity, but nowhere is there confusion; everything proceeds in orderly fashion. Each bee has its work to do and seems to do it joyously and with all its might.

The gatherers of nectar, led by scouts, fly in a "bee line" to the scene of action, making good time at about 15 miles an hour. Among the flowers still heavy with dew, they pass in and out, gathering pollen dust on their hairy covering, and using their slender curved tongues, like tiny scimitars, to draw from the blossoms the last drop of sweetness.

Then they fly back to the hive, pausing for a brief moment before the guards at the entrance, to give their peculiar salute and countersign, before entering to deposit their spoils. Here, in a little six-sided room with walls of solid wax, is the storehouse or bank of deposit. The records show that one colony of bees will yield from 50 to 100 pounds of the honey per season—very large return for their labor when we consider the insignificant amount each bee is able to manufacture in a day.

Honey is an admirable carbohydrate food. It consists of water, levulose, dextrose, cane sugar, dextrins, and gums, with very small quantities of ash, beeswax, a few pollen grains, and coloring material from the plants supplying nectar.

This delectable food contains substantial amounts of vitamins A, B, and C. None of these is found in highly refined cane or beet sugars. In addition, it contains carbohydrates, a small amount of protein, a generous quantity of the mineral salts, calcium, iron, iodine, copper and zinc, as well as enzymes and other vital and nutritional substances. Unlike table sugar, it is alkaline, hence does not tend to produce body acidity. It is the simplest and most digestible form of sweetening, and is readily absorbed and assimilated. In giving the honey-bee to the world, the Creator has conferred a real blessing on humanity.



God has always been thoughtful of His creatures and everywhere we see manifestations of His love and care. When He conferred on us the blessing of the Bible, this would seem to be the crowning evidence of His solicitude. Without this Book, we would know nothing about Him, and the astonishing program for the world which is laid out therein.

We have noticed how God's arch-enemy has attempted the destruction of the Holy Scriptures. Thomas Paine thought he had demolished the Bible, but after he had crawled despairingly into a dishonored grave, the Book took such a leap forward that the world's printing presses are almost unable to supply the enormous demand for millions of copies in more than a thousand languages and dialects.

Bob Ingersoll traveled around the country exploding the Book, and showing up the "Mistakes of Moses" at \$200.00 a night. It is easy to abuse Moses at such a price, especially as Moses is dead

and cannot talk back. It would be, I think, an exciting experience, after listening to an infidel speak on "The Mistakes of Moses," to hear Moses on, "The Mistakes of an Infidel!"

Moses, you know, was rather a difficult man to deal with. Pharaoh tried talking back to him, and met with rather poor success. Jannes and Jambres withstood Moses and found a grave in the Red Sea. Koran, Dathan, and Abiran tried it, but they went down so deep in the earth they have never returned. But now, Moses is dead and it is easy to abuse him. It does not take a very brave man to kick a dead lion!

What, then, makes this Book so different from all other books. Whose Book is it? Who made it? Infidels attribute the selection of the books, which comprise it, to the caprice of fallible and gullible men. Those who believe it are called ignorant and credulous.

But what does the Bible say about itself? Listen while it speaks. "Open thou mine eyes that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law." "Forever, O Lord, Thy word is settled in heaven." "Thy testimonies are wonderful, therefore doth my soul keep them." "The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding to the simple." "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path" (Ps. 119). "No prophecy of the Scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man; but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Spirit" (II Peter 1: 21).

Is this witness true? It must be. If that be so, then surely we are compelled to give our attention to the utterances of God, according to them the honor and respect they command.

It was Dr. Van Dyke, I think, who expressed himself in words which ought to be remembered. He said:

"Born in the East and clothed in oriental form and imagery, the Bible walks the ways of all the world with familiar feet and enters land after land to find its own everywhere. It has learned to speak in hundreds of languages to the heart of man. It comes into the palace to tell the monarch that he is a servant of the Most High and into the cottage to assure the peasant that he is a son of God. Christian listen to its stories with wonder and delight, and wise men ponder them as parables of life. It has a word of peace for the time of peril, a word of comfort for the time of calamity, a word of light for the hour of darkness. Its oracles are repeated in the assembly of the people, and its counsels whispered in the ear of the lonely. The wicked and the proud tremble at its warnings, but to the wounded and penitent it has a

(Continued on page 5)

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"Behold!" I bring you good tidings"

The first gospel tidings were brought by the angels to Israel's shepherds: "For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour." These shepherds when they saw the child became the first shepherd evangelists of good tidings.

Today, through more than twenty shepherd evangelists, THE FRIENDS OF ISRAEL Missionary and Relief Society, Inc., proclaims the message of good tidings and brings material relief to Israel from Bombay, India, to Brooklyn, New York; from Jerusalem in Judea to



San Francisco, California; from Philadelphia to London and across Europe.

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"... the word of the Lord... Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord of hosts."—Zech. 4:6

By Dr. D. A. (Scotchie) McCall
Minister of Revival Promotion,
Sword of the Lord Foundation

I. Happy Birthday to You

The Birthday of Dr. Rice is December 11th. Nine days later comes the birthday of Mrs. Rice. Tens of thousands of people have been brought to the Lord through their ministries. Hundreds of thousands of persons have been blessed by their blessed influence. While I was in Canada, a theological student said, "Tell Dr. Rice I was won to Christ through the Gospel in his book on Prayer." A pastor from Texas writes of the great help received from Dr. Rice. I am sure you believe in giving flowers NOW while a person is alive to enjoy them.

1. Write Dr. and Mrs. Rice a birthday letter of appreciation and good wishes.
2. Some will be sending remembrances. Here at the Sword of the Lord it is a time of refreshing and fellowship for us.
3. Pray for them. The work is great. The burdens are heavy.
4. Help them: (1) by getting all the subscriptions possible to THE SWORD OF THE LORD. (2) Join the Book Club. Get others to join. (3) Contribute to the Building Fund. (4) Buy some good books. (5) Promote revival. (6) Win the lost.

In these ways you will be getting out the Gospel. In these ways you will delight the hearts of Dr. and Mrs. John R. Rice. Doxology!

II. Fishing Was Good

While at Mobile, we had three good fishing trips with pastors and laymen.

One day we went "up river" with Mr. and Mrs. McLendon. When those bull bream hit, you think a "whale" is on the hook. Big shellcrackers, a big tabby cat, and others added to the fun of the day.

What joy we had in seeing boys and girls come to Christ in the services—that WAS good fishing!

With pastor friends, Bill Scruggs, John Hilbun and Harold Newberry, we went a good half-day out in the Gulf of Mexico. Trolling, a few mackerel were taken along with some fighting bonitas. Some hypocrite eels got in the way. Going deep we got nice groupers, beautiful red snappers, large flounders and, nearer the surface, spade fish. Hypocrite trigger fish bothered us.

Victories in His services come

in digging deep for Him with His Gospel—youth responded and grown people came along. Yes! Fishing WAS good!

A real thrill came deep in Mobile Bay, with Mr. J. C. Howell. My line started cutting the water, my pole bent, and around and around we went. A very large red fish came in! Another wait—it must have been a submarine—something took the hook on my 40 pound test line and did not pause—the line broke. Then a scrapping pompano came along—the most edible of all.

In the services a couple came. The folks said, "They will count. We have prayed a long time for them."

At the mission, lost men, back-slidden men came to Christ for salvation and in consecration—Yes, fishing WAS good! Doxology!

That is what Jesus promised, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men" (Matt. 4:19). Amen!

Note: This is sent in from Danville, Illinois, where God gives a good start in a revival with Pastor Jack Bennett, Calvary Baptist Church. More later!

III. Have Fun Giving (II Cor. 9:7)

One of the department heads called to tell us how members of her group took home individual Christmas Building offering stockings in which to gather funds. In addition, they voted to have a department stocking. When a person got a candy bar, soft drink, or such like, they would put a like amount for Him in the stocking. They are having fun giving for Him!

Some keep the stocking at the table and make a thank offering at each meal.

Some will pass it around at Sunday School class meetings. The choir could do the same thing.

The pastor could have these stockings passed to the congregation, or have someone hold them "open" at the door at the close of the service. It would be interesting to have every person present put in a penny for each year of his age. Only \$2.50 pays for a square foot of the permanent location. Get the idea?

IV. Good But Not Enough

The intermediate building relieved the terrible congestion in the old building, but His work grows, needs increase, and we are making more and more responses to these calls. God's blessings multiply! Some offices are in one building, and some are in another. This is expensive in time, energy, and money. It slows the work in some places. We must have an adequate building for His work!

V. Permanent Location

The new property should be a good location for His work "until Jesus comes." It is certainly the final word in location for THE SWORD OF THE LORD. Doxology!

Our alert Business Manager, Mr. Walt Handford, figures the cost of the site to be about \$2.50 per square foot. Put the cost of one, two, three, ten, or a hundred square feet into your Christmas stocking. Send it in Christmas for Him!

VI. Thank You for Keeping on

Our basic channel of financial support for our building fund continues to be the attractive varicolored stand-up monthly calendar envelope packs. This month and next month, we are using the last two envelopes in the 1953 pack. Several hundred loyal Christians

(Continued from page 1)

letter was written and we did not know of her conversion. But wouldn't you like to be getting word, 8 or 9 years from now, that by sending subscriptions to THE SWORD OF THE LORD you had won a woman to Christ, and then, after she had gone to Heaven, it had resulted in the salvation of her daughter, 20 years old? I hope this letter provokes many Christians to sow the precious seed, to spread the Gospel, by subscribing for THE SWORD OF THE LORD for others.

In India, THE SWORD OF THE LORD Brings Salvation; Somebody Else Paid For It!

Here is another letter that should provoke many. From far-off India comes word of a man who was sent THE SWORD OF THE LORD through our Ministers' and Missionary Subscription Fund. Then he wrote for some back issues to feast his soul on the messages of this paper. Now read his letter and see how THE SWORD, sent as a missionary project along with somebody's prayers and money, won his soul to Christ.

"My heartiest thanks to you for the package of THE SWORD OF THE LORD which comes to me regularly since November, 1952. It has been a tremendous blessing to us. I should say, next to our Bible, it has become the real food for our souls and is very dear to us because it brings new light to us. There is no paper in this district or country, even in the world, with such a rousing call to seek the Lord. As soon as I go through the package, I am always giving it to my colleagues and they enjoy it, as I do, until it is worn out. Before I received THE SWORD I was always thinking that I was already saved, but it was not so. And as I read it, it helped me to realize I was Christian by name only and not by deed at all. But now I realize that I needed to change my behaviour, and now I am living in the blessed hope of His soon coming... Oh, may God richly bless you and strengthen you for this work and continued supplies of THE SWORD OF THE LORD, because if this fails to warn and rouse, we are all sunk. I am trying to send you my subscription through our missionary as soon as possible."

(Signed) "R. Zhavise Angami
"Kohima Naga Hills, India"

I should think this letter would provoke hundreds of other Christians to pay for subscriptions. This man is not allowed to send money out of India. In many, many other countries, the same condition exists. Yet we have letters from every continent and almost every foreign country begging for THE SWORD OF THE LORD. Gifts to our Ministers' and Missionary Subscription Fund enable us to send THE SWORD OF THE LORD to such people. Are you provoked to help?

How A Sailor in the American Navy in the Far East Feels About THE SWORD OF THE LORD

Somebody sent THE SWORD to a man in the navy. Read his letter and see if you are not provoked to follow the same example, and send THE SWORD to men and women in our armed services, to your own boy, or to all the young

are using these envelopes. Thanks to you!

You have helped with payments on our intermediate building. We have \$5,000 balance from this fund as a down payment on our wonderful permanent location in the heart of Wheaton. Now, we must have \$17,000 additional payment on this property on January 1, 1954.

We hope to get this through envelope contributions, and through the unique Christmas stockings we have for you. Some of you contribute in other ways! Order a stocking for each member of your family. Each stocking has a convenient strap for hanging on a door knob, desk, bed, etc. Put in your coins, or "green backs" and at Christmas convert into check or money order and send to this office. Help make available the needed quarters for His work.

Provoking Letters

people from your community in the services.

"... Out here in the Far East there is very little in the way of spiritual food for the soul, and that is where THE SWORD OF THE LORD comes in. Also, it helps me in my messages, as I am holding services on board the ship each Sunday and, the Lord willing, I hope to start a Bible study, using THE SWORD OF THE LORD..."
(Signed) "David N. Frazeur, USN"

Preachers Feel the Same Way

If you could read some of the thousands of letters that have come to us from preachers of the Gospel, blessed and inspired by THE SWORD OF THE LORD, you would surely be provoked to send THE SWORD to as many preachers as possible. Read the following letter as an example.

"Dear Brother Rice:

"I have only been a subscriber to THE SWORD OF THE LORD for a short time, but already I feel that I must tell you what a great blessing it has been to me. In a day when practically everything you read is tainted with modernism, it is indeed a refreshing experience to be able to read such sound truths as THE SWORD contains in each issue.

"As a preacher of the glorious Gospel of our Lord, it means much to be able to rely upon a sure source of inspiration and blessing each week. THE SWORD more than abundantly meets the need. Your paper is truly worth much more than what you ask for it, and I am amazed that you can afford to make it available at such a small cost.

"A personal word also to you for your courage in being singular and not afraid to preach the truth as God reveals it to you. Be as-
(Continued on page 5)

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This Christmas, while the world waits for the outcome of Korean peace negotiations, thousands of Koreans are making their peace with God.

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After three nightmare years of bitterness, suffering, loss and anguish, these Koreans have learned of the love of God. They have heard the gospel message for the first time, through Pocket Testament League evangelists and the Gospels of John they distribute.

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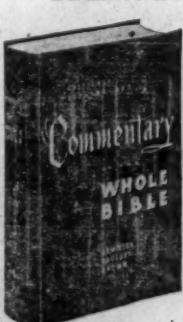
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Provoking Letters

(Continued from page 4)

sured of my prayers and may you always fly your colors like you have done in the past and are now doing. Count me as a genuine SWORD enthusiast. I don't intend to be without it 'til Jesus comes."

(Signed) Everett Case, Jr.

A Provoking Letter From a Farmer

Brother Lester Swoverland, Ladoga, Indiana, writes us the following heart-warming letter:

"... When I sell some of my hogs this winter, I'm going to subscribe to THE SWORD for everyone in My Sunday School class. For the last 5 or 6 years I've ordered books for their Christmas, but this year it's going to be THE SWORD OF THE LORD..."

What a wonderful example that is! Here is a man who will send THE SWORD to all the members of his Sunday School class. Why don't you do what the Bible says and be provoked to do the same kind of good works?

Dr. Bob Jones, Sr., is paying for subscriptions to THE SWORD OF THE LORD for 1,000 additional missionaries, besides renewing those whose subscriptions he has already sent. God bless him! Does not that provoke you to sacrifice and give?

The other day a business man from Springfield, Missouri, sent a check for \$500 to send THE SWORD OF THE LORD to many. Many another business man should count up his profits for the year and see that God is honored by a holy gift to send THE SWORD OF THE LORD to hundreds of families. Are you not provoked to imitate him?

A farmer living at Maroa, Illinois, drove up to see us the other day. He and his wife had prayed about the matter and felt led to leave a check for \$500 to send THE SWORD OF THE LORD.

A beloved Christian layman sent a check for \$750 for 500 subscriptions toward our goal of 200,000. Doesn't that provoke you to emulation? Doesn't that challenge you to take part in this great work?

A young pastor, just finishing his seminary course, adopted a quota of 1,000 subscriptions, and has set out to send them in, week by week, month by month. He will get others to subscribe for themselves when possible, but will sacrificially pay for hundreds of subscriptions himself. He has known the work of THE SWORD OF THE LORD since its beginning. Does not that provoke you, nay, even shame you, who perhaps have never sacrificed to spread the Gospel, to warm and develop soul-winning Christians, to stir revival fires, to win souls through subscriptions to this paper?

Tremendous Reasons for Helping in the Sword Twentieth Anniversary Enlargement Plan

We have undertaken, being led, as we believe, by the Holy Spirit, to reach 200,000 paid subscriptions to THE SWORD OF THE LORD by our 20th anniversary which falls on September 28, 1954. I want to give you some reasons why I feel now would be a good time for you to help by sending subscriptions to others at this time.

1. The fall harvest time is on. People are selling their crops, selling their hogs, and otherwise re-

ceiving the largest income of the year. That is a good reason for sending subscriptions now to all you can, loved ones, friends, the teachers of your Sunday School, the members of your Sunday School class, to the young converts in the church, to missionaries.

2. Christian business men coming to the close of the year must count up their profits. Individuals must also consider their income and get ready to pay income tax. The government allows up to 20 per cent of one's income to go for religious causes which are definitely recognized as Christian and non-profit enterprises. Thousands of Christians should take time now to send subscriptions to THE SWORD OF THE LORD for Jesus' sake. Would you not rather use the money you have earned in sending THE SWORD OF THE LORD to others than in paying it in taxes? Well the government has provided that we may do so. The Sword of the Lord Foundation is a non-profit corporation, and subscriptions may be sent to this Christian magazine in a way that will honor God and win souls, and be credited as Christian giving.

3. The Christmas season, approaching, is especially a fitting time to give subscription to THE SWORD OF THE LORD. Thousands of people ought to get subscriptions to THE SWORD OF THE LORD as a gift this Christmas time. Send subscriptions at once. We will send an attractive card announcing that THE SWORD OF THE LORD comes with your compliments, provided that you rush the subscriptions to us right away. If you send twenty-five or more subscriptions, or if you agree to be responsible for a quota of not less than twenty-five subscriptions either new or renewal, you may send them at the rock-bottom rate of \$1.50 per year in the United States, \$2.00 per year in Canada and foreign countries. Otherwise subscriptions must be sent at the standard rate of \$1.50 per year in the United States, \$3.00 a year in Canada and foreign countries.

We Cannot Reach Our Goal Unless Thousands of People Accept a Responsible Quota

We want thousands of people to accept a quota, to send 100 subscriptions by September 28, or 25, or 50, or 200, or 500, or 1,000 subscriptions. Will you be one to join in this holy business? My heart is deeply burdened. I simply cannot do this work alone. I feel I ought not to tell you how hard I am working, and how earnestly I am doing my best to spread THE SWORD OF THE LORD. I believe that if you knew how sacrificially I am trying to spread the Gospel and stir revival fires everywhere and help create a climate that makes revival and soul winning possible, you would be provoked to help me and to do likewise. Will you write today and tell me that you will accept a quota and will undertake, God helping you, to send subscriptions, new or renewal, either paid for yourself or paid for others, by September 28, 1954? I look for your letter with deep concern. Please do not fail me!

Please sign the following coupon, and mail it at once.

Loyalty Coupon

Evangelist John R. Rice, Editor
THE SWORD OF THE LORD
Wheaton, Illinois

Yes, Brother Rice, I am glad to undertake to send a definite quota of subscriptions in the Sword Twentieth Anniversary effort. By September 28, 1954, I will undertake, God willing, to send _____ subscriptions (must be 25 or more to get the \$1.50 rate). I will send them: (1) _____ per month; (2) _____ all at one time; (3) _____ from time to time.

Please send _____ samples of THE SWORD OF THE LORD which I agree to use in the next 30 days in trying to get subscribers.

Signed _____

Address _____

Miracles of Science

(Continued from page 3)

mother's voice. The wilderness and the solitary place have been made glad by it, and the fire on the hearth has lit the reading of its well-worn pages. It has woven itself into our dearest dreams, so that love, friendship, sympathy, and devotion, memory and hope put on the beautiful garments of its treasured speech, breathing of frankincense and myrrh."

Transcending all other benefits and blessings, we find it the Way of Life. The Lord Jesus Christ is revealed as this Way, and also, the Truth, and the Life itself. The Bible brings to us the only solution of the world's need, and that solution is a Person, and that Person, the Man of Galilee, the Son of God, God of every God, dying for us on a cross raised high on Golgotha's Hill.

Have you discovered and accepted this wonderful and perfect Saviour? He waits for your answer. Make it "Yes." You will, if you are wise. Then you can travel life's road confident and unafraid. Whatever happens, you will be sure that you are in His loving care.

I will not doubt though all my ships at sea

Come drifting home with all broken masts and sails,

I will believe the hand which never fails,

From seeming evil, worketh good for me.

And though I weep because those sails are tattered,

Still I will cry while my best hopes are shattered—

"I trust in Thee."

I will not doubt though all my prayers return

Unanswered from the still white

realm above.

I will believe it is an all-wise love

Which has refused these things for which I yearn;

And though at times I cannot keep from grieving,

Yet, the pure ardor of my fixed believing

Undimmed shall burn.

Precious, isn't He?

(From the book MIRACLES OF SCIENCE published by Designed Products.)

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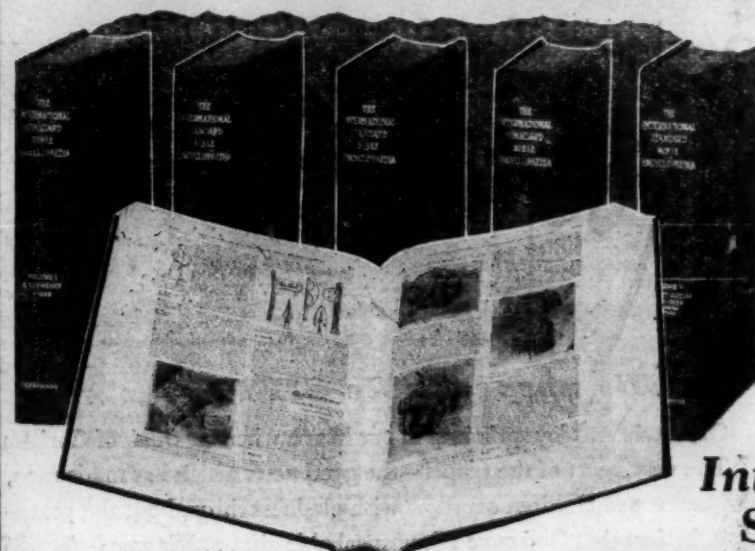
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Dr. W. O. H. Garman, President

Prepare To Meet Thy God

(Continued from page 1)

continue to be unrepentant. God is a holy God. Verse 4 says: "The Lord God hath sworn by his holiness." Because He is holy, therefore He hates sin. Because He hates sin, above everything else He wants men to repent of their sins. And repentance has a twofold aspect: it means turning away from sin, and it means turning to God.

Why Does God Have a Right to Demand Repentance of All Sinners?

First, because He is creator of mankind. Verse 13: "... he that formeth the mountains, and createth the wind. ... The Lord, The God of hosts, is His name." Because God made the universe and created man, therefore He has a perfect right to demand of His creatures that they turn away from their sinful ways. Verse 4 suggests a second reason for this right. The word "transgress" used there has in it the meaning of "rebel." Refusal to repent of one's sin really means rebelling against the laws of God, who is the moral Governor of the Universe.

This sermon of Amos teaches us that God is willing to go the very limit in trying to get men to repent. This was true of His relations to Israel in the days of the prophet. But we can be very sure that God prefers that men should repent without the use of drastic means to get them to do so. He always exhausts every ordinary means of grace to influence men to repent before He starts to use drastic means. Today the ordinary means God uses would certainly begin with the influence of Christian homes—a Christian mother, or father, or other relatives. It would include the influence of Christian friends, and most certainly the influence of the church with its teaching and preaching of Gospel truth. The Lord does His very best to get every young person who is blessed with these influences to accept Christ in the days of youth.

God Had to Use Drastic Means to Try and Get Israel to Repent

He sent the Israelites famine.

Verse 6 mentions "cleanness of teeth" and "want of bread." He sent them drought. Verse 7 quotes God as saying, "I have withholden the rain." In verse 9: "blasting and mildew" are used of God, in verse 10: "The pestilence," and in verse 11 calamities are thus described: "I have overthrown some of you as God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah." Yet with all these drastic means, Israel failed to repent of her sins, for the Lord said over and over again, "Yet have ye not returned unto me, saith the Lord."

And after exhausting every ordinary means available, God has been already using some drastic means in order to get America as a nation to repent of its sins. We have gone through two world wars, and have already lost over one hundred thousand men in the Korean War. If our country stubbornly refuses to repent, it may be necessary for God to use atomic warfare against us as a last drastic means to get us to turn from our sinful ways. May God grant that it may not be necessary for Him to do so! May Heaven send us a revival of old-time Christianity instead!

God is Using Drastic Means to Get Individual Sinners to Repent

If ordinary means of grace fail to influence men to turn to the Lord from their sins, then He often sends them trouble, or lets it come their way. He does not deliver them from it, in order that they may seek the Lord because of the trouble. And He lets catastrophes overtake them that they might think on their way and repent. Floods or earthquakes are sometimes used by Him for this purpose.

I was pastor in Long Beach when the great earthquake rocked that city. One of the most active workers we had in the church had an unsaved husband. We had been praying for his salvation for many months, and God used the earthquake to talk to him in a no uncertain way. He was driving his automobile along a narrow alley between two tall brick buildings when the first shock came that did so much damage. He stopped his car and immediately got out of it. He had no sooner done this than a quantity of bricks came tumbling down smashing in the top of his car just where he had been seated a few seconds before. If he had stayed in the car instead of getting out of it, he would have lost his life, and would have died an unsaved man. What a sermon this was to him! God was using drastic means to get him to surrender to God.

Death of loved ones, loss of health, or sometimes loss of wealth are among the more drastic means the good Lord sometimes uses to get people to turn from their own sinful ways and return unto God. What a difficult time the Lord has in breaking the stubborn will of some who do not respond to the ordinary means of grace.

A woman, with whom I talked on several occasions, grew up in a family with godly parents, who all their lifetime prayed for her salvation. She attended Sunday School and church, and heard the Gospel repeatedly. When she was a little older she served as pianist for an evangelist, and yet she herself was not born again. Later, she married a wealthy man who was connected with the Hollywood film industry. She drifted farther away from the Lord. Her husband purchased a mountain cabin for her vacation use, and installed an organ in it for her to play, for she was a talented musician. A close neighbor of her's in the mountains was a godly Christian who began to pray in earnest for her salvation. This Christian neighbor asked me to call upon the woman in an effort to lead her to the Lord. But I found her very critical of Christians and not willing to face her responsibility to accept Christ.

A year later, when on vacation in the mountains, I made a second call, and discovered that she had been saved from death by a narrow margin. Her doctor had declared her to be dead, and she was actually sent to an undertaker's quarters. The undertaker gave her the death test and found indication of life. She was sent back to a

doctor and was restored to more or less normal health again. There in the mountain cabin she herself told me about this experience in a joking manner. I said to her "If I were in your shoes, and had had that happen to me, I would want to accept Jesus Christ as my Saviour as quickly as I possibly could do so."

But she persisted many months in rejecting the Saviour. The death angel entered her home and took away her husband. Then for about eight or ten years she went down to death's door again and again, suffering greatly much of the time. Just this year she was sent to the hospital where her last days were spent. A Christian nurse waited on her and found her with a soft heart for Christian things. She had come to feel that she was too great a sinner for Christ to save. But the nurse was able to give her Scripture that met her needs, and she wrote the neighbor in the mountains that her prayers were answered and that this one, for whom so much prayer had gone up to God, really died trusting in Christ as her Saviour. How patient and longsuffering our God is with erring humans!

In a Southern California town a little girl became very much interested in attending Sunday School, and was led to accept Jesus Christ as her Saviour. She did everything she could to get her parents to go to church, but they refused to go. One night the girl's father and mother were downstairs in a drunken brawl with some of their neighbors while their little girl was upstairs and coming down with a bad case of polio. When they realized her condition, she was rushed to a hospital. At that time she said to her mother, "I know Jesus can heal me if He wants to."

News of her condition reached a prayer group, where earnest prayer went up to God for her deliverance, and God began to work in her body and she made rapid progress toward recovery that amazed the doctors. But the parents weren't interested in turning to God as their child wanted them to do, so God suddenly took her home.

The next Sunday following the funeral, the father and mother were both at church and the mother said to the pastor, "This is what our little girl would want us to do, and God had to take her home before we could see it, and now we want to be sure we will meet her in Heaven." Oh, parents of children, may it not be necessary for God to have to take from your home a darling child before you will fulfill your obligation to the Lord by repenting of your sin and accepting Christ as your Saviour and living for Him!

The Tribulation Period, Which Follows the Rapture of the Church, Will Be God's Final Use of Drastic Means to Try and Get Men to Repent

Listen to the words of Revelation 16:9-11:

"And men were scorched with great heat, and blasphemed the name of God, which hath power over these plagues: And they repented not to give him glory. And the fifth angel poured out his vial upon the seat of the beast; and his kingdom was full of darkness; and they gnawed their tongues for pain, and blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, and repented not of their deeds."

Even after the use of such drastic means as these divine judgments, men in those days will stubbornly refuse to repent of their sins, even as it was repeated concerning the Jews of the days of Amos: "Yet have they not returned unto me, saith the Lord."

But Why Do Men So Often Refuse to Repent of Their Sin?

Why is it men do not seek their Maker, who can bestow upon them so many blessings? Surely, one reason is because they love sin too much. John 3:19, 20: "And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For every one that doeth evil

(Continued on page 7)

"Send ... Something to EAT for Christmas!"



Refugees from the Eastern part of Germany continue to stream into Berlin. "If we were able now to lead you through Berlin you would be terrified," says one of our Hebrew Christian leaders who distributes our relief parcels among the hungry and terror-stricken fleeing from Communist oppression. And this grateful missionary and relief worker adds: "Your letter and the many packages which followed it, especially the CARE food parcels, gave us no end of joy and encouragement, since we were able to help so many in their terrible hunger and distress."

Another Hebrew Christian missionary writes on behalf of her converts in Yugoslavia: "You may think that the economic situation has improved here, but not for the people who have survived the gas chambers. They are still in dire need, for they are unemployed, and broken in body." Then she makes this pathetic plea: "Please, dear brother, do send food parcels to these Hebrew Christians so they may have something to eat for Christmas!"

We plead with you, dear Christian friend, to help us to send these Hebrew Christians not costly presents, but "something to eat for Christmas." At this blessed Christmas season help us to relieve distress and give joy to the Hebrew Christian victims of persecution in Germany, Austria, Hungary, Yugoslavia, Israel, and other places where our ministry extends. Please remember especially the little children and the aged Hebrew Christians whom we support in Homes. Remember the words of the Lord: "Unto the least ... my brethren."

The International Hebrew Christian Alliance

Rev. Jacob Peltz, Ph.B., B.D., Secretary
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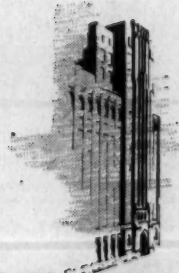
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Prepare To Meet Thy God

(Continued from page 6)

hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved." And this is why God lets them reap the results of their sinning that they might be driven to turn to the Lord in their extremity.

Another reason why men refuse to repent is because they think they can enjoy sin now, and then have plenty of time to repent later on. But this supposition is the trick of the Devil to bring about their destruction, for Satan knows that all he has to do to win the victory in a man's life is to continue to get him to postpone a decision for Christ. How uncertain our span of life is! Proverbs 27:1: "Boast not thyself of tomorrow: for thou knowest not what a

day may bring forth." Proverbs 29:1: "He, that being often reproved hardeneth his neck, shall suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy." The man who persists in wrong-doing will sooner or later face sudden destruction with no possible way of escape for him.

A young man of eighteen attended evangelistic meetings until he was under conviction of sin, and he faced the possibility of surrendering to Christ. But he was afraid to confess Christ, and so he decided to postpone making a decision for Christ until some other time. Not until he was thirty-five years of age did he again face the issue seriously. At that time the Lord began to deal with him to accept Christ. But, because he was afraid he would have to give up working on Sunday if he became a Christian, he postponed a decision again. At the age of seventy-two he was dying and sent for a preacher. But the minister found him unable to repent of his sin because he had persisted in it so long. He died saying, "I'm lost!" To postpone a decision for the Saviour is a terribly risky thing to do for any sinner! The Apostle Paul said: "Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation" (II Cor. 6:2).

Every Man Who Keeps on Refusing to Repent of His Sins Must Sooner or Later Meet God in Judgment

The words of Amos 4:12: "Prepare to meet thy God," were spoken as a climax to the five times repeated declaration of the Lord: "Yet have ye not returned unto me." Because Israel kept on refusing to repent, therefore she must needs prepare to meet God and such a meeting can only be in judgment. For an unrepentant sinner there is no escape in meeting a holy God in judgment.

A Christian young man invited an unsaved friend of his to attend church with him. He could see that the sermon had produced real conviction of sin for the friend seemed to be very uncomfortable. So he arranged for them after church to walk around the block so that at a certain place they would be likely to meet the minister after leaving the church. After introduction, the friend remarked to the pastor, "I didn't want to meet you." But the preacher came back with the words, "Neither do you want to meet God, but some day you will have to do it." Further conversation was carried on which led to his conversion. But it was the truth of the necessity of meeting God in judgment that was used to bring him to decision for Christ.

Dear unsaved friend, you can be very sure that God is trying hard to save you by getting you to repent of your sins now, but He cannot save you unless you will let Him do so. Romans 5:7, 8: "For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die. But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." This Scripture teaches us two great and wonderful truths: First, God loves guilty sinners, and, second, Christ died for the ungodly. Remember then that God loves you, and Christ died for your sins. And the blessed Holy Spirit has been using every possible means, ordinary and drastic, in order to get you to repent of your sins and accept Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour. But God cannot save you without your consent. You must say "Yes" to the Lord, and do it now. What will your answer be to the pleas of the Lover of your soul?

Gipsy Smith, the great evangelist, used to tell of an experience which happened when his father was young. About fifty gipsies were harvesting a field of hops. They finished working on one side of a river, and many of them boarded a wagon which was to be driven by a team of horses across a bridge to a field located on the other side of the stream. A good share of those thus riding were women and children who

Talking With God

(Continued from page 1)

tremely helpful, conscience-quickening, faith-provoking, inspiring.

Why, Then, Another Book?

For many reasons. In the first place, there are a great many people in the world who do not know how to pray, who need to pray, who suffer because they do not know how. Many tens of thousands of them have never read the best on this subject. Another book may possibly appeal to another set of persons. This is greatly to be desired, for when all is done, plenty will remain that is not accomplished.

Still further, the fact that a number of persons have uttered their testimony is no reason why still others should not do the same. Every man is responsible for his own message; every man has his own friends and acquaintances, and all men who know that God answers prayer have a duty to those who do not know. The performance of this duty is an imperative. Men are not conscience-free unless they perform it.

I have been wonderfully helped by some other writers. I know they have helped a multitude of others. This makes me a debtor to help someone if I can and I am ready to pay the debt as God makes it possible, for I know that God answers prayer, and I desire to help other people to know that He answers prayer, so that sick ones, tempted ones, burdened ones, perplexed ones, weary ones, may find the wisdom and help, and comfort and strength which have at times come to me through prayer.

If an excuse is required for another book on this all-important subject, I think it is found in what I have written above. It is my earnest desire that this book should be of service. As I said in giving account of another book which God has made of use to some of His people, I have no desire to write a learned book. I have no desire to write a large book. My wish is that God shall help me to write a book of real service to His people and I hope to put it in form where the busy and the burdened may be able to derive benefit from it.

It is safe to say that there is no subject on which persons think so carelessly as on the subject of religious faith and duty. No subject is so important for time and for eternity. Our religious lives determine our social, political, industrial, commercial, and educational careers. There is

sang songs and made merry in gipsy fashion. But when they neared the bridge, the women realized that the stream had swollen and that the bridge looked unsafe, and so they screamed in terror. The horses were frightened by the screams and ran away, with the wagon crashing into a part of the bridge. All in the wagon were suddenly thrown into the river. One courageous gipsy boy made a desperate effort to save his mother who was now in the water. He swam to where she was and did everything in his power to rescue her, but she clutched him as only a drowning person can, and this hindered him from saving her, so that she was drowned.

A multiple funeral service was held for the poor gipsies who perished in this tragic accident. But the gipsy boy who lost his dear mother bent over her and cried bitterly, saying over her dead form, "Mother! Mother! I tried to save you. I did all a man could do to save you, but you would not let me. You would not let me."

And surely, the Lord can say the same thing of every unrepentant sinner: "I loved you, I died for you, I have done everything an omnipotent God could do to try and save you, but you would not let me. You would not let me."

While the opportunity is still yours, before it becomes necessary for God to use some drastic means to get you to repent, why not accept Jesus Christ as your very own personal Saviour, surrender to Him as your Lord and Master, and confess Him before the world as yours for time and eternity? God grant that you may do it now!

nothing about which we ought to think so exactly and carefully as the subject of personal religion. It (Continued on page 8)



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Talking With God

(Continued from page 7)

is safe to say, however, that there is no topic upon which the average man or woman thinks more loosely, negligently, inexactly, than this one. Jesus told men to search the Scriptures (John 5:39). We all know what searching is. We have searched rooms, barns, bureau drawers, desks, for valuable papers, agricultural implements, articles of clothing, books. We know how we do. We search, but comparatively few search the Scriptures.

Some say they have not time. Some give other excuses and reasons for this neglect. When men do not search the Scriptures, they do not do other things which they

ought to do. How can they even know what God requires unless they search the Scriptures? How can they pray unless they search the Scriptures? The result of carelessness in regard to this matter is deplorable ignorance on the part of multitudes, even of professed Christians, as to what prayer really is.

I always shrink when I hear the phrase, "unanswered prayer," for it is a question whether there is or can be such a thing. It is undoubtedly true that multitudes of men do what they call praying and do not derive benefit therefrom, but are the things which go by this name always prayer?

"Lord, Teach Us to Pray"

This was the petition of disciples who came to Jesus, desiring that He would aid them in this matter. He did not refuse the help they asked. He told them how to pray and He told them what great things even a small bit of faith would accomplish, if they really prayed. "When you pray, say, 'Our Father.'" "If you have faith like a grain of mustard seed, you can overturn mountains or pluck up trees by the roots." This is the teaching of our Lord. It is obvious that the force which is to accomplish such results is a world-moving one. It is not a trifling power, but a power that can shake and destroy and build up.

Let us therefore seek to know what it is to pray. Let us come as the disciples did, asking the Lord to teach us to pray, and that He may teach us to pray, let us

ask Him to teach us what prayer is.

Not a Form of Words

It is clear that simply repeating words is not prayer. Prayer utters itself in words orally, or otherwise, but uttering words is not necessarily prayer. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself. The publican would not lift up his eyes to Heaven, but stood afar off, and said, "God be merciful to me a sinner" (Luke 18:13). The Pharisee did not pray. He made a speech to God, a very poor speech too, by the way, one which has come down through the ages as a sort of monstrosity.

On the other hand, the publican did pray. He received answer to his prayer. He went down to his house justified. Even if the Pharisee had prayed in the words of the publican, he would not really have prayed if he had not had the spirit of the publican, for God looks upon the hearts of men. He cannot be deceived and He will not be mocked. If men repeat words to Him which do not correspond to heart attitude, He knows it and He considers it an insult and an offense. He does not answer such pretended prayers except by judgments.

What is the Prayer Attitude?

It is unquestionably a childlike state of mind and heart. "When ye pray, say, Our Father." In words, yes, but not in words alone, for if I say, "My father," to a man who does not occupy that relation to me and whom I know not to occupy that relation, it is simply a sort of lie. I must, then, when I begin to pray occupy the child position. What is the heart attitude of a child?

In the first place, perhaps the attitude of loving confidence. God has given me nine children. Two of them are with the Lord, lovely children they were. Why should I say "were"? Had I been a more obedient and humble man, no doubt they would have continued with me, but I needed chastening, so they were taken away. But when my children who remain say, "My father," they have a perfect confidence that if the thing which they desire is within my power and judged to be helpful to them, they will get the thing which they desire. They had this confidence fully developed when they were just beginning to talk. It has not grown less as days have gone on. They have said, "My father," and they have felt, "My father," when they said it.

The Child Attitude also Involves Submission and Obedience

A child who is not submissive and obedient is not in any real sense a spiritual child, but rather a spiritual rebel. It is not difficult for one to know whether he is disposed to a loving submission and a constant obedience or not. This question is simply a question of fact and anyone who will take the time to think it over will know whether he is at heart a child or a rebel. If he is really a rebel it avails nothing for him to be talking as if he were a child. God is not pleased with what he says because He knows what he means. It is an offense, not a compliment, not a satisfaction, to say: "My Father," when in fact the person has not the heart of a child.

"Examine Yourselves, Whether Ye Be in the Faith"

It is possible that in years gone by, there was too much time spent in what was called "self-examination." Persons became morbid. They dwelt on their own states and attitudes so much that they lost the sense of God. It is very doubtful whether this is a common feeling at the present time. Personally, I am sure that a larger measure of self-examination would have been very helpful to me, and I have every reason to believe that a multitude of my brethren might also have been profited by the same practice.

I remember my dear brother, Henry L. Kellogg, one of the purest, sweetest, truest men I ever knew, a man to whom, as it seems to me, under God, I owe my own salvation. It was his custom when we were in college to have regular seasons for examining himself. I think this was one secret of his

spiritual power and of his large usefulness. I believe that no man can say, "My Father," to God intelligently and acceptably, who

(Continued on page 9)

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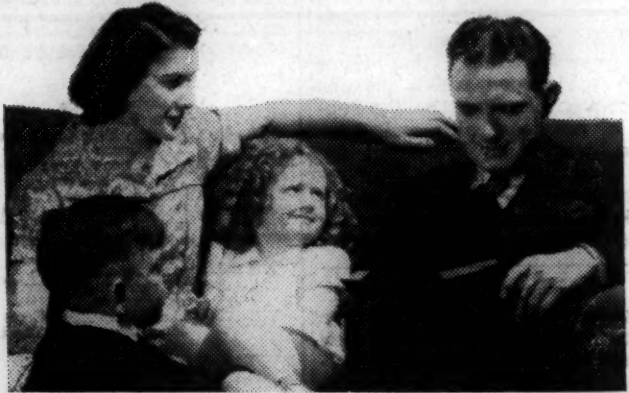
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Talking With God

(Continued from page 8)

does not from time to time raise with himself the question respecting the child attitude.

"Except Ye Become as Little Children"

"Ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven" (Matt. 18:3). The little child trusts and the little child submits and the little child actively obeys, because the little child heartily loves his father. He comprehends very little of his father's plans. Almost all he knows is that his father occupies a certain position or relation with regard to him, and his heart goes out to his father in a loving confidence that ever leads to larger measures of affection and service.

When we have prayed, or have done the thing which we have called praying, what has been our attitude of mind respecting God? Have we looked upon Him as a worthy child looks upon a worthy parent? Have we seriously thought of Him at all, or have we, driven by some sense of need or some feeling of guilt, simply called because we must call. If so, then we have not prayed. No matter what we have named the thing which we have done, we may be sure that we have not prayed, for prayer, let me repeat the work, is a heart attitude.

If an earthly parent should be approached by a child with a petition and should read the heart of the child and see that he did not love, that he did not trust, that he was not willing to obey, that

he was really in a state of antagonism, he would at once feel, even before he said, that he could not be on fatherly relations until the child should come into the child attitude.

Let me repeat once more: It is entirely possible for every one who reads these words to know whether he is in the child state or not. If he is not in the child state, he cannot even begin to pray. He cannot say, "Our Father," and all the time which he spends in pretended prayer while in this rebellious attitude is worse than thrown away. "When ye pray say: 'Our Father.'" If you can truly say this, you are in a state to begin your prayer. If you cannot truly say this, you are not in a state to begin your prayer; so let us be sure in regard to this.

This is an article of cardinal importance. There is no progress, no beginning, without it. Only the child heart can acceptably say, "My Father," and if we have not the child heart, we are not children. We may belong to the church; we may occupy official positions in it; we may even be preachers of the gospel, but the Lord will say to us in the great day: "I know you not whence ye are; depart from me all ye workers of iniquity" (Luke 13:27). "For let not that man think that he shall receive anything of the Lord" (James 1:7).

(From the book GETTING THINGS FROM GOD, by Dr. Charles A. Blanchard, Sword of the Lord Publishers, Wheaton, Illinois. Price: \$2.50).

The Return of The King

(Continued from page 1)

them talking about the kingdom, but doing absolutely nothing about it. And so we read in Acts 1:3:

"To whom [the disciples] also he [Jesus] shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the KINGDOM OF GOD."

The topic of conversation with the disciples during the last forty days of the Lord here upon the earth was the KINGDOM. And now forty days afterwards, their hopes soared to the very highest pitch. Jesus leads them to the Mount of Olives, the very place where the prophets had foretold that the Messiah would come when He came to set up the KINGDOM upon the earth (Zech. 14:4). The same mountain where Peter, James and John had seen a vision of the glory of His kingdom in the transfiguration (Matt. 17). Surely the Lord was now at last about to set up the Throne of

David, and so the question in verse 6:

"Lord, wilt thou at THIS TIME restore again the kingdom to Israel?"

Three words arrest our attention in this verse:—"AT THIS TIME." They knew, if God's Word were true, that some day Messiah would set up the kingdom. Was THIS then the time of which they had been instructed. "Lord Wilt thou at THIS TIME restore again the kingdom to Israel?" But instead of a definite answer to this question which Jesus might have given, He merely assures them that it is not for them to know WHEN this should occur and so He says:

"It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power." — Acts 1:7.

Now this is a tremendously important verse. If, as the majority of professing Christendom teaches today, the church is the kingdom, and all the prophecies concerning

the Messianic, earthly kingdom of our Lord must be spiritualized and applied to the church, and, therefore, God is all through with national Israel, then here certainly was the one opportunity for Jesus to set His disciples, and all of us, straight on this subject. If God is all through with Israel, and the church is now spiritual Israel, then here was the opportunity of our Saviour to state that fact clearly, so that there would be no question or confusion about it. He could have said, for instance: "Forget about the millennial kingdom. The church is the kingdom; God is all through with the nation of Israel, and they will never return literally to the land." This would have cleared up all the confusion which is dividing Christendom today. But instead Jesus says, "The time is not for you to know. Just wait until Pentecost, and the Holy Spirit will give you instructions and further information on what you are to do in the interim before I set up the kingdom, for the promises will still come true."

And then came the shock of their lives. Jesus, after assuring them in this way that the kingdom would be set up ultimately, suddenly leaves them, and we read:

"And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight." — Acts 1:9.

Their Lord is gone. The King has departed. And their hopes are shattered once more, and come tumbling down like a house of paper about their heads. Just after He had them all keyed up to a high pitch, with the assurance that the kingdom was not forgotten, He suddenly disappears from their midst, and they are struck dumb. No one utters a single word; their grief is too great for expression. All they could do was

stand and gaze in despair and wonder, and we read that they:

"... looked steadfastly toward heaven as he went up..."

And then follows the climax of the entire scene, for while they looked steadfastly toward Heaven as He went up,

Behold

"... Behold, two men stood by them in white apparel." — Acts 1:10.

The Lord was gone. Jesus had departed, but He had immediately dispatched two men with a message from Heaven for them. Jesus knew that loneliness of despair must have gripped the hearts of those disciples as He disappears into the blue, and so without delay, He sends back His very first message from Heaven. And what a message it was—a message that dispelled their fears, assured their doubting hearts, rekindled all their hopes, and caused them to return to Jerusalem, the city of the King, to await the next heavenly messenger, the Holy Spirit at Pentecost.

Jesus' First Message

Now will you notice the content of this first message, the very first message our ascended Lord ever sent back from Heaven, to His disciples. Here it is:

"Two men stood by them in white apparel; Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven." — Acts 1:10, 11.

This then was our Lord's first message from Heaven after His ascension. I AM COMING BACK AGAIN! I WILL RETURN, and

(Continued on page 10)

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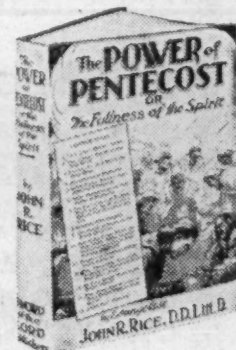
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The Return of The King

(Continued from page 9)

when I do, then the kingdom promises still will all be fulfilled without a single exception. Now a number of things are important in this verse which we have quoted.

1. It will be the very same Jesus, the very same One who was born of a virgin, taught among men, died on the cross, arose from the grave. Yes, **THIS SAME JESUS** in a human body with the prints of the nails in His hands and feet—this same Jesus is coming back again.

2. He will come in the same manner as He went away. He will return visibly. He left them from the Mount of Olives; He will return to the Mount of Olives (Zech. 14: 4). He went away leaving the promise of the kingdom as His last message before He ascended, and His first message after He ascended was the assurance of His return to set up this kingdom.

3. When He ascended, He lifted up His hands to bless His disciples (Luke 24:50, 51). When He returns, it will be to bring in the full and complete blessing upon Israel and the nations, and the entire earth.

The Certainty

Yes, indeed, Jesus Christ is coming again. He is coming literally, visibly, bodily, in like manner as He has gone away. The fact is absolutely certain, while the time has not yet been revealed. If Jesus

had told His disciples and us the date, the exact moment of His return, He would have robbed the truth of Christ's second coming of all of its power, its incentive, and its blessing. It is the imminency of His return which gives to the Second Coming of Christ the power and comfort which it contains. Jesus will return some day, and He MAY return today. The early disciples expected our Lord's return momentarily, and we today have a perfect right to look for Him to come at any moment. To delay our Lord's return by asserting that this or that event must first take place is severely condemned by Jesus Himself.

To say that we must first have a great world revival before the Lord can come back again is delaying His coming. It implies that Christ cannot come today, and it robs the coming of Christ of its imminency. To teach that we must see another world war, or that Russia must first invade Palestine before the Lord's return, is to be guilty of delaying the coming of the Lord, for we then imply that Jesus cannot come until AFTER that event has taken place, and therefore, He could not come today. This is delaying the Lord's coming.

To teach that the church must pass through all or part of the tribulation is delaying the Lord's coming, for if the church must pass through only one day of the tribulation, then we cannot look for Him until after that day, and

therefore, Jesus cannot come today. Oh, let us beware of delaying the Lord's return, of putting it off. Our Lord said, "It is not for you to know the times or the seasons," and He certainly implied by this that we are to look for Him ALL the time, and at ANY time.

Dire Warnings

In view of the many, many strange teachings and deceptions so prevalent today concerning the time of our Lord's return, a warning needs to be sounded. To place anything, any event before our Lord's return is a terrible sin, which will be severely judged. To state that anything must still happen before our Lord comes back is to destroy the imminency and the power of the Second Coming, and to take away the incentive for holiness for service and for patience which the imminent, any-moment expectation of our Lord promotes. To all who would, therefore, have us believe that something, no matter what it may be, must still occur before we can look for our Lord's return, I would like to quote the words of our Lord in Luke 12, without comment, and then we shall speak about it in a later message.

"But and if that servant say in his heart, My lord delayeth his coming; and shall begin to beat the menservants and maidens, and to eat and drink, and to be drunken, The lord of that servant will come in a day when he looketh not for him, and at an hour when he is not aware, and will cut him in sunder, and will appoint him his portion

with the unbelievers." — Luke 12:45,46.

We shall discuss this passage in a later broadcast, but now we merely want to sound the warning, that if we give up the expectation of the Lord's imminent return, we make the entire truth sterile, fruitless and helpless. Jesus MAY come today. If we really believe that He might come before tomorrow morning, it would stir us to the very depths of our souls, I am sure. There would be some things that we have left undone, that we would want to do before we meet Him. There are some things that we have done, that we would want to make right before the Lord's return to call us before the judgment seat of Christ. We would live such lives that not a finger could be laid upon us because we would be found working for Him.

Surely if we believe with all our hearts that the Lord Jesus Christ might come back again before another day passes, it would stir us to action. It would cause holiness of walk and conduct and conversation. We would make this last day really count for our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. And so we ask the question in closing, "How real is this blessed hope of our Lord's return?" The apostle John tells us very definitely concerning this:

"And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure." — 1 John 3:3.

"Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come." — Matt. 24:42.

PART TWO

"He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus." — Rev. 22:20.

In this verse, the very next to the last verse in the entire Bible, we find two last things spoken of. First, we have the last promise, and then we have the last prayer in the Bible. The last promise is from our risen, ascended Lord; the last prayer is by His waiting, redeemed people on the earth, and both of these, the last promise, and the last prayer, have to do with just one single thing—the coming again of our Lord Jesus Christ, the only answer to the world's problems, the only hope of a groaning creation, the Blessed Hope of the waiting Bride. The promise is, "Surely I come quickly." And the prayer is, "Even so, come, Lord Jesus."

Important Doctrine

The unique way, therefore, in which the Bible closes is in itself an indication of the tremendous importance of the doctrine of the Second Coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. I hope that you will see this. Last words are always very precious words, important words, meaningful words. If you, for instance, knew that you had only a few more minutes to spend with your loved ones here on earth, you certainly would not spend those minutes in idle conversation or inconsequential chatter. You would weigh every word, you would speak of the thing that is nearest and dearest and heaviest upon your heart. The same certainly must have been true of our Lord Jesus Christ. For when He spoke these last words, He knew that this was the end of His revelation to us in the Bible and in these last few words He speaks again of the thing which is closest to His own heart, His Second Coming, the climax of His redemptive program.

Let those who tell us that the doctrine of the Second Coming of Christ is not an important doctrine, a vital doctrine, a fundamental doctrine, consider this fact, that our Lord in His very last closing words to the waiting Church chose to speak only of His coming again. In our message last week, you will remember, we called your attention to the first words which Jesus ever sent back from Heaven AFTER He ascended. It was, "I am coming again." This was the promise of Acts 1:11, and just as His FIRST word AFTER He went to Heaven was, "I am coming back again," so the very LAST words which He sent down from Heaven before the canon of Scriptures was closed, is again, "I am coming back again." And

(Continued on page 11)

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The Return of The King

(Continued from page 10)

between these two verses, the first and the last words of our ascended Lord from Heaven, there are some three hundred references to this

blessed, glorious hope in the New Testament from the first chapter of Acts to the end of the book of the Revelation.

Must Be Preached

Considering, therefore, the importance attached by the Holy Spirit, and the Lord Jesus Christ to this great truth, as indicated by the volume of space, and the prominence given to it in the writings of Paul, John, James, Peter and Jude, we wonder, yes, I say, we wonder why it is preached on so seldom in many, many quarters. A preacher friend said to me, "I never preach on the Second Coming, for I do not consider it a fundamental or important doctrine." What a serious indictment, what a charge to hurl against the blessed person of the Holy Spirit, who devotes so much space to it in the Bible, and gives it such an important place. What an accusation against the apostles who constantly preached it, and the writers of the Bible who ceaselessly proclaimed it.

Do you realize that far more is said concerning the glorious Second Coming of Christ in the Old Testament than about His first coming in humiliation. For without His Second Coming, the first coming is sterile, abortive, barren, and incomplete. Read the Old Testament, and you will find many, many times more references to the Lord's glorious Second Coming and the setting up of His kingdom, than to His first coming and humiliation at Calvary. No wonder that the people of Israel lost sight of the First Coming in the mass of revelation concerning His Second Coming. As a result, almost everyone, including the disciples, and even John the Baptist, expected that, when the Messiah would come, He would set up His kingdom in glory. And so when He came nineteen hundred years ago, and the revelation of the cross was given, it was to them a great, a tremendous shock and a terrible disappointment. And just as Israel was at that time so occupied with the glory of Messiah's kingdom that they failed to consider and lost sight of the cross, which must precede it, so today I fear that there are many so occupied with the cross and His First Coming that they have lost sight of the value and the necessity and the meaning of His Second Coming to set up the Kingdom. It is not that we would in any way minimize the importance of the cross but without the Second Coming the entire plan remains incomplete. And so the Jews of Jesus' day knew only kingdom truth, and knew nothing about the church, and today the very opposite is true, and the mass of Christendom sees only the church, and knows nothing about the kingdom truth of our Lord's return.

Consider Its Prominence

Do you realize that the very first promise God ever gave to man after he fell was the promise of the Second Coming of the Messiah. In Genesis 3:15 God in pronouncing judgment upon the serpent, immediately after Adam's fall, says:

"And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel."

Now everyone knows, everyone agrees that this promise refers to the coming of the Redeemer, the seed of the woman, but have you ever seen the two comings of the Redeemer in this verse? They are both very clearly there. Here is the first coming:

"Thou [the seed of the serpent] shall bruise his [the seed of the woman] heel."

Now this, everyone agrees, is already history. It was literally fulfilled nineteen hundred years ago when Jesus hung upon the cross with His feet nailed to a literal tree, and His heel literally bruised by the emissaries of the serpent, Satan.

But this verse (Gen. 3:15) contains more than the bruising of the Saviour's heel; it also speaks of the crushing of the serpent's head, which, of course, means his

final end, for when the head is crushed that means the end of his existence. It refers, therefore, to the ultimate, complete and final victory of our Lord Jesus Christ over Satan. To say that Jesus crushed the serpent's head at Calvary is to ignore the plain teaching of the Word of God. At our Lord's First Coming His heel was bruised, but it will only be at His Second Coming that Satan's head will be finally crushed and bruised and complete victory for the Saviour be assured.

I repeat, to say that this prophecy of the crushing of Satan's head was fulfilled at Calvary is to ignore the plain teaching of the Word of God. Paul gives us the answer in Romans 16:20. Listen to Paul:

"And the God of peace shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly."

Now this was written by the Apostle Paul some thirty years after Calvary, and Paul tells us the bruising of Satan is still in the future. Certainly if Jesus is not coming back again, then Calvary was a victory for Satan instead of for the Lord Jesus Christ. (Continued on page 12)

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Now, don't you Christian people who have been praying for Bob Jones University and who have invested money in

the Student Loan Endowment and Missionary Fund, which we have been raising, rejoice with us in what God has enabled this institution with your prayers and with your co-operation to do? Surely goodness and mercy have followed Bob Jones University for the last twenty-seven years. This goodness and this mercy of God have always been manifested following every real battle we have had to fight to maintain the orthodox Gospel evangelistic emphasis, the Christian philosophy, and the administrative policies of the University.

We are earnestly requesting all Christian people everywhere to pray for us and to pray more than ever that God will always give the necessary courage to the Board of Trustees and to the executives of the University to be true and that from time to time as new members of the Board may take the place of old members that go on to be with the Lord and as new teachers and administrators come into the school that they may be courageous Christians and may preserve the testimony of Bob Jones University until the Lord comes again. Please help us financially in our effort to build the Student Loan Endowment and Missionary Fund and pray that God may direct us in using this money so as to get the best results possible. A number of the missionaries who have gone out from Bob Jones University to the fifty foreign fields where they are working have had to have some financial assistance in order to get their orthodox, evangelistic, Christian training in the University which God led us to found twenty-seven years ago. Keep praying for us, and ask God what He would have you to do about sending money to the fund we are trying to build. Thank you and God bless you.

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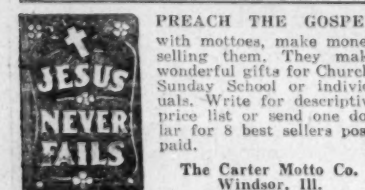
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The Return of The King

(Continued from page 11)

How significant, therefore, that the very first promise in the Old Testament includes both the First Coming when the Saviour's heel will be bruised, but also the Second Coming when He will crush the serpent's head.

Close of the Old Testament

But even more astonishing is the fact that the very last promise in the Old Testament was also the promise—not of our Lord's First Coming, but of His Second. We of course, do not under-estimate the importance of our Lord's first advent, to suffer, to die, and to rise again. We would not make His Second Coming more important than His First, for they are inseparable and of equal importance. The First Coming is incomplete without His Second, and the Second is impossible without the First. We merely want you to see how equally important our Lord's return is, and absolutely essential in the final consummation of the redemption which He began at Calvary, and will be completed when He comes again. And so consider the last promise in the Old Testament. You will find it in Malachi chapter 4, verse 1, where we read:

"For, behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the Lord of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch."

Now the teaching of this passage is unmistakable. Malachi, of course, is referring to the "day of the Lord," an expression occurring hundreds of times in the Scriptures and without exception invariably refers to that awful day of earth's judgment which will be ushered in at the coming again of Christ. It is called not only the "day of the Lord," but also the "Great Tribulation," the "day of vengeance of our God," the "time of Jacob's trouble," and many other equally descriptive titles. And then, will you notice verse 2 of Malachi 4:

"But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings."

This is a clear, definite reference to the return of our Lord Jesus Christ as the "Sun of righteousness" to dispel the darkness and the gloom of this present age. To the nation of Israel, the Messiah, Jesus, will come as the Sun of righteousness to dispel the darkness of the time of Jacob's trouble in particular during the tribulation. Malachi describes this day in chapter 3, verses 1-4:

"Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the Lord of hosts. But who may abide the day of his coming? and who shall stand when he appeareth? for he is like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' soap: And he shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver: and he shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the Lord an offering in righteousness. Then shall the offering of Judah and Jerusalem be pleasant unto the Lord, as in the days of old, and as in former years."

When the earth's darkest moment arrives, it will only be by the coming of the Lord that its problems will be solved and peace and righteousness will be ushered in.

The Morning Star

But just as Christ will come AFTER the tribulation to the nation of Israel as the Sun of righteousness to deliver them, just so He will FIRST come as the Morning Star to catch away His church. In Revelation 2:26-28 we read:

"And he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations: And he shall rule them with a rod of iron: as the vessels of a potter shall they be broken to shivers: even as I re-

ceived of my Father. AND I WILL GIVE HIM THE MORNING STAR."

Now you will notice in this passage, which of course, refers to the church, that our Lord here is referred to as the "morning star" for his waiting Bride. But to Israel He is presented as the "Sun of righteousness." Now the figure is most suggestive and instructive. The morning star is one of the brightest stars in the heavens. It always rises shortly before dawn, and is followed by the darkest hour of the entire night, the hour just before the dawn. The morning star heralds the night's darkest hour, but also proclaims the promise of the soon coming sunrise. And then after this darkest period of the night, after the morning star rises, the sun shows itself, dispelling the darkness, awaking all nature, and bringing in a new day.

This is the Bible revelation concerning our Lord's return also. The next event is the rising of the morning star for the church when Jesus comes from

"... heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air; and so shall we ever be with the Lord."—1 Thess. 4:16,17.

And then after this event of the rapture of the church will come the tribulation, the day of the Lord, the time of Jacob's trouble, and earth's bath of blood, the blackest period in human history, a time of suffering so intense that Jesus said:

"Except those days were shortened there should no flesh be saved."

And then after this period of seven years, when everything seems to be lost, the Sun of righteousness, the Lord Jesus Christ, will suddenly return with His glorified Bride, the church, and usher in the glad millennial day of earth's redemption. Israel's restoration, and universal blessing upon all nations of the earth, when:

*Christ shall have dominion,
Over land and sea;
Earth's remotest regions,
Shall His empires be.*

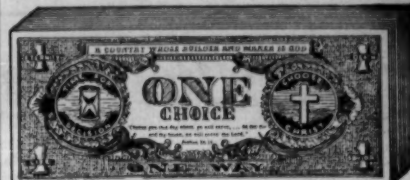
This beloved is the program of God. This is the only hope of the world, for the nations, and for creation. The next event on the program then in the schedule of God is that glorious event, called also "that blessed hope" when the Lord Jesus Himself shall return according to the promise of His Book:

"He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Amen."—Rev. 22:20.

May our hearts respond, "Even so, come, Lord Jesus."

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